

AFS: 207,211

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**APPLICANT:** Willsford, et al.

**EXAMINER:**

**SERIAL NO.: 10/551,362**

**ART UNIT:**

**FILED: September 28, 2005**

**FOR: WATER RECOVERY SYSTEMS AND CONTROL VALVES**

**STATEMENT OF FILING BY EXPRESS MAIL 37 C.F.R. § 1.10**

This correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on February 24, 2006 in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Mailing Label Number ER 059 675 436 US addressed to the Honorable Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450.

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**Honorable Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**Sir:**

This Information Disclosure Statement (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "IDS") is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97, 1.98, and it is requested that the information set forth in this statement and in the listed documents be considered during the pendency of the above-identified application, and any other application relying on the filing date of the above-identified application or cross-referencing it as a related application.

1. This IDS should be considered, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97, as it is filed:

(Check one of the boxes opposite A-D)

(Check one of the boxes opposite A-D)

☐ A. within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application or within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in the above-identified international application.

☒ B. before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits.

☐ C. after the times set forth in (A) and (B) above, but before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 C.F.R. §1.113 or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.311, and the necessary statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) appears below (see box "i") or the necessary fee is enclosed (see box "ii" below).

(check one of the boxes opposite "i" or "ii" below)

☐ i. (check the applicable statement)

☐ I, the undersigned, hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

☐ I, the undersigned, hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

☐ ii. A check for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p), presently believed to be \$180.00, is enclosed.

☐ D. after the times set forth in (A), (B), and (C) above, but before payment of the issue fee, since Applicant petitions for the consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement by a petition enclosed herewith pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2), a check for the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i), presently believed to be \$ 180.00, is enclosed, and the necessary statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) appears below:

(check the applicable statement)

☐ I, the undersigned, hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

☐ I, the undersigned, hereby state that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

2. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(1), this IDS includes a list on form PTO-1449 of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office, incorporated into this IDS as an attachment hereto. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(b): (i) each U.S. patent listed is identified by patentee, patent number, and issue date; (ii) each foreign patent or published foreign patent application is identified by the country or patent office which issued the patent or published the application, an appropriate document number, and the publication date indicated on the patent or published application; and (iii) each publication is identified by author (if any), title, relevant pages of the publication, date, and place of publication. A legible copy of each document listed is attached and incorporated into this IDS, except that no copy of any U.S. patent application is included pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(iii) and except as explained below.

(check the boxes opposite A and/or B and fill in blanks, if appropriate)

☐ A. Document(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is (are) substantively cumulative to document(s) \_\_\_\_\_, and, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(c), only a copy of each of the latter document(s) is (are) attached.

☐ B. Certain documents were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the following prior application(s), which are relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120:

These documents are identified by attaching hereto copies of the forms PTO-892 and/or PTO-1449 from the files of the prior application(s) and Applicant requests that they be considered and

made of record in this application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d). Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of these documents need not be provided with this IDS.

(check paragraphs 3 and/or 4, if applicable)

☐ 3. Document(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is (are) not in the English language. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.98(a)(3), 1.98(c), it is stated that:

(check the applicable statement(s))

☐ English translation(s) of the document(s) \_\_\_\_\_ (or of the pertinent portions thereof) is (are) enclosed and, thus no concise explanation of their relevance is required, (see M.P.E.P., §609, p. 600-92).

☐ English-language equivalent(s) of the document(s) \_\_\_\_\_ (or of the pertinent portions thereof) which is (are) in fact translation(s) of the document(s) is (are) enclosed.

☐ The attached English-language version of a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application which cites document(s) \_\_\_\_\_ and which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is submitted to satisfy the requirement for a concise explanation of the relevance of the document(s), (see M.P.E.P., §609, p. 600-93).

☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is set forth as follows:

[insert concise explanation of relevance]

☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) \_\_\_\_\_ can be found on page(s) \_\_\_\_\_ of the specification.

☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) \_\_\_\_\_ can be found on the attached sheet.

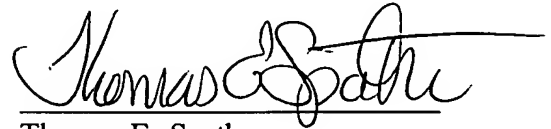
☐ 4. Other information being provided for the Examiner's consideration follows:

[insert other information]

5. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97(g), 1.97(h), the filing of this IDS shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or as an admission that information cited in this IDS is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b). Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicant reserves the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

6. Please charge any deficiency or other fees or credit any refund or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-0035.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Thomas E. Spath", with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Thomas E. Spath  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 25,928

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(212) 949-9022

FORM PTO-1449 (MODIFIED)

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS FOR  
APPLICANT'S INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Atty Docket No: 207,211  
Serial No: 10/551,362  
Applicant: Willsford, et al.  
Filing Date: September 28, 2005  
Group:

REFERENCE DESIGNATION		U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS			FILING DATE
EXAMINER					
INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO	DATE	NAME	CLASS/SUBCLASS	IF APPROPRIATE
	3,799,181	26 MAR 1974	Maddren		
	4,697,614	06 OCT 1987	Powers et al.		
	5,339,859	23 AUG 1994	Bowman		
	5,452,740	26 SEP 1995	Bowman		
	5,564,462	15 OCT 1996	Storch		
	5,622,203	22 APR 1997	Givler		
	5,671,771	30 SEP 1997	Brandel		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER				TRANSLATION	
INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/SUBCLASS	YES NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS			
EXAMINER			
INITIAL	REF NO AUTHOR, TITLE	DATE	PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.

1. International Search Report

Examiner

Date Considered

**Examiner:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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EXAMINER	DOCUMENT NO	DATE	NAME	CLASS/SUBCLASS	IF APPROPRIATE
	1,954,903	17 APR 1934	Walker, A.S.		
	2,569,838	02 OCT 1951	Vinson		
	2,672,157	16 MAR 1954	Branson, C.D.		
	2,826,367	11 MAR 1958	Cobb, C.A.		
	2,837,282	03 JUN 1958	Budde, J.C.		
	2,872,116	03 FEB 1959	Kozel, J.a. et al.		
	2,886,245	12 May 1959	Giesler, J.V.		
	2,889,113	02 JUN 1959	Kozel, J.A. et al.		
	2,901,174	25 AUG 1959	Branson, C.D.		
	2,905,387	22 SEP 1959	Powell, R.H.		
	2,982,475	02 MAY 1961	Dahl, R.R.		
	3,001,717	26 SEP 1961	Rimsha V.E. et al.		
	3,291,391	13 DEC 1966	Mesco, B.		
	3,799,181	26 MAR 1974	Maddren		
	4,089,461	16 MAY 1978	Gocke		
	4,116,377	26 SEP 1978	Andersson et al.		
	4,117,976	03 OCT 1978	Doherty, Jr.		
	4,139,150	13 FEB 1979	Graversen et al.		
	4,160,461	10 JUL 1979	Vataru,et al.		
	4,227,646	14 OCT 1980	Hart,et al.		
	4,243,062	06 JAN 1981	Shelton		
	4,247,041	27 JAN 1981	Kitamura,et al.		
	4,303,195	01 DEC 1981	Hashimoto,et al.		
	4,322,032	30 MAR 1982	Hashimoto, et al.		
	4,450,829	29 MAY 1984	Morita, et al.		
	4,554,688	26 NOV 1985	Puccerella		
	4,669,653	02 JUN 1987	Avelöv		

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REFERENCE DESIGNATION			U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS		(continued)	
EXAMINER					FILING DATE	
INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO	DATE	NAME	CLASS/SUBCLASS	IF APPROPRIATE	
	4,697,614	06 OCT 1987	Powers, et al.			
	4,798,224	17 JAN 1989	Haws			
	4,854,499	08 AUG 1989	Neuman			
	4,870,986	03 OCT 1989	Barrett, et al.			
	4,930,551	05 JUN 1990	Haws			
	5,105,846	21 APR 1992	Britt			
	5,205,318	27 APR 1993	Massaro, et al.			
	5,339,859	23 AUG 1994	Bowman			
	5,351,712	04 OCT 1994	Houlihan			
	5,452,740	26 SEP 1995	Bowman			
	5,564,462	15 OCT 1996	Storch			
	5,572,985	12 NOV 1996	Benham			
	5,603,344	18 FEB 1997	Hall, Jr.			
	5,622,203	22 APR 1997	Givler, et al.			
	5,671,771	30 SEP 1997	Brandel			
	5,692,675	02 DEC 1997	Arlie			
	5,829,467	03 NOV 1998	Spicher			
	6,314,979	13 NOV 2001	Lips			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER				TRANSLATION		
INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/SUBCLASS	YES	NO
	200126439 B2	2000.03.09	Australia			

OTHER DOCUMENTS			
EXAMINER			
INITIAL	REF NO	AUTHOR, TITLE,	DATE PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.

1. International Search Report

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